trends

ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, November 19, 1981 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended November 14 totaled an estimated 18.4 billion ton-miles, 0.5 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 46 weeks of 1981 was an estimated 827.4 billion ton-miles, 1.6 percent higher than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended November 14 totaled 423,181 cars, 5.0 percent below 1980, and 0.4 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 0.8 percent in the East, but down 7.0 percent in the South, and 8.0 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1980, 16 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, coal loadings were up 24,124 cars, or 21.5 percent.

Eleven of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads during the week ended November 7 totaled 35,652 cars, up 7.4 percent from the corresponding week of 1980, and 64,730 trailers and/or containers, up 7.7 percent from last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 45 weeks of the year was 1,482,953 cars, 2.4 percent higher than last year, and 2,693,670 trailers and/or containers, 2.4 percent higher than last year.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 11/14/81:

	Loadings in Week ended November 14, 1981		Change from Corresponding Week 1980			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	26,979	D	5,593	17.2	D	3,559	11.7
Other farm products	6,581	I	1,069	19.4	I	94	1.4
Metallic ores	24,539	D	1,166	4.5	I	1,202	5.2
Coal	136,338	I	24,124	21.5	I	4,365	3.3
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	10,643	D	4,049	27.6	D	641	5.7
Nonmetallic minerals	10,158	D	4,128	28.9	D	1,089	9.7
Grain mill products	13,965	D	3,027	17.8	I	107	0.8
Food and kindred products	14,711	D	2,781	15.9	D	622	4.1
Primary forest products	17,806	D	2,321	11.5	I	58	0.3
Lumber and wood products except furniture	5,757	D	3,183	35.6	D	166	2.8
Pulp, paper and allied products	17,544	D	1,743	9.0	D	433	2.4
Chemicals and allied products	24,651	D	4,226	14.6	I	915	3.9
Petroleum products	5,024	D	362	6.7	D	153	3.0
Stone, clay and glass products	12,091	D	4,094	25.3	D	201	1.6
Coke	6,204	I	513	9.0	I	5	0.1
Metals and products	12,712	D	2,676	17.4	I	1	0.0
Motor vehicles and equipment	15,103	D	5,263	25.8	I	700	4.9
Waste and scrap materials	10,604	D	3,111	22.7	I	303	2.9
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,301	D	1,280	12.1	D	397	4.1
All other carloads	42,233	I	885	2.1	D	2,165	4.9
LCL traffic	237	I	10	4.4	I	19	8.7
Total Cars Loaded	423,181	D	22,402	5.0	D	1,657	0.4
Corresponding week of 1980	445,583						

	1981	1980	% Change	
Total Cars Loaded (46 weeks)	19,409,276	20,123,355	D	3.5
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):				
45 Weeks cumulative	809.1	796.0	I	1.6
Week ended November 14	18.4	18.5	D	0.5
46 Weeks cumulative	827.4	814.4	I	1.6

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